

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Original) A method for organizing information in a database in order to record information from an RNA transcript profiling laboratory procedure, comprising:

defining a set of container types, wherein container types in said set of container types each have one or more positions capable of having content and wherein said set of container types comprises members selected from the group consisting of an Eppendorf tube, a 96 well plate, a transcript profiling array, a freezer, a data recording media screen, and a bitmap image of a data recording media screen;

defining a set of operation types, wherein said set of operation types comprises members selected from the group consisting of printing arrays, reading out a data recording media screen, creation of a plate for PCR, and a robot run that transfers content from one container to another;

defining a set of measurement types, wherein said set of measurement types comprises members selected from the group consisting of OD₆₀₀ of a bacterial plate, OD₂₆₀ of a DNA solution, intercalating agent quantitation of PCR product, agarose gel quantitation of PCR product, mRNA quantitation, and readout signal for each position in an array;

defining a set of process types, wherein said set of process types comprises members selected from the group consisting of incubating, PCR cycling, denaturing arrays, prepare probe from RNA, hybridize probe with array, incubate data recording media screens, and readout data recording screen;

performing one more operations, wherein performing any one of said operations creates a new container with a unique identifier, and wherein said new container with a unique identifier is one of said container types in said set of container types;

performing one or more processes on one or more of said new containers, wherein performing any one of said processes changes a state in one or more of said new containers; and,

performing one or more measurements, wherein performing any one of said measurements results in associating data with content in one or more of said new containers.

14. (Original) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a machine to perform method steps of claim 13 for organizing information obtained from RNA transcript profiling in a database.